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CONGESTED DOCKET GETS BIG RELIEF

TWO WEEKS OF CRIMINAL COURT RESULTS IN LARGE NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS. JAIL SENTENCES AGGREGATE 35 YEARS.

Sentences aggregating thirty-five years with alternate fines of \$475 were passed on thirty-two prisoners by Judge Hayne F. Rice in the two weeks of general sessions court which ended Thursday afternoon. Besides these, three sealed sentences were handed down, five mistrials were ordered and twenty cases were continued. Only two cases resulted in acquittal and one prisoner was sent to the state hospital for the insane. Twenty cases, involving principally passing of bogus checks and disposing of property under lien, were not passed by the solicitor upon the payment of costs or by settlement out of court. With this record of achievement, the criminal court docket, which was greatly crowded, was greatly relieved but the burden was passed to the chain gang which was already crowded.

In no case of conviction of the prohibiting laws did Judge Rice vary from his rule of giving jail sentences. Among the cases tried before court adjourned was that of D. P. Curry, local stock dealer, who was convicted of simple assault as a result of the difficulty on the streets of Laurens a few weeks ago in which W. W. Smith received painful injuries about the head. His sentence was a fine of \$100 or 30 days. Mr. Curry entered a plea of self defense, testifying that Mr. Smith was endeavoring to strike him and he returned the blows.

Others found guilty were as follows:

J. C. Kirby, disposing of property under lien, sealed sentence.

George Hampton, same charge, sealed sentence.

Henry Phelps, disposing of property under lien, sealed sentence.

Charley Williams, disposing of property under lien, sealed sentence.

Wash Milam, who was convicted at the March term for assault and battery, not having perfected his appeal, was resented to serve 18 months.

John Henry Davis was sentenced to eight months after he pleaded guilty to a violation of the prohibition law.

Henry Hembree was acquitted on a charge of assault and battery.

Will Floyd came clear on a charge of larceny.

A mistrial was ordered in the case against Fletcher Hill on a whiskey charge and the same result was made in the trial of Lewis Jackson and Henry Clardy on a similar charge.

RECORD GRADUATING CLASS

All But Three of Last Year's Graduating Class at High School Now in College.

An interesting fact in connection with the last graduating class of the Laurens high school is that, in addition to having been the largest class in the history of the high school, all except three are now in college. The three who remained at home are all employed as stenographers in local offices.

The names of the members of the class who are in college and the names of the schools which they are attending are:

Rebecca Adams, Chicago; William Albright and Herman Taylor, Clemson; Nathan Barksdale, Doran Bramlett, Cecil Brown, Furman; Marion Blackwell, Mary Boyd, Margaret Coleman, Allie Gosnell, Toccoa Gray, Tullah Henry, Mary Hudgens, Eula Mae Martin, Louise Smith, Eva Taylor, and Ruth Watson, Winthrop; Alma Coleman, Greenville Woman's College; Lois Fuller, Columbia College; Emmett Jesse, Ohio State University; Mattie Moore, Anderson College; Jack Miller and Martin Teague, Davidson; Sarah Eliza Swygert, Converse; German Thompson, Wofford; Maggie Wingo, Coker College.

Appointed Special Judge

Frank P. McGowan, Esq., of this city, was appointed a special judge by Gov. Harvey last week to hold the term of common pleas court at Sumter beginning October 23. The appointment was made upon the recommendation of Chief Justice Gary. At the same time Mendel L. Smith, Esq., of Camden, was appointed to preside at Sumter the following week.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING ON LIME QUARRY

Large Number of Interested Listeners at Meeting in Interest of Lime Quarry Near Ware Shoals.

A large number of interested people of the Poplar Springs community attended the meeting promoted largely by Sen. Dial last Friday in the Poplar Springs community of this county. Sen. Dial, S. L. Jeffords, forage crop specialist, and C. G. Cushman, extension dairy husbandman of Clemson college, addressed the meeting on the possibilities of establishing a lime quarry in that section. Local people pointed out the fact that there was a rich deposit of lime in the native rock and plans were discussed for making the quarry a community enterprise and furnish lime to local farmers for the upbuilding of the soil.

Senator Dial stated that he knew of no other state in the United States which could cope with South Carolina in growing a complete system of feeds for its necessities. He also stated that the community might be the garden spot of Laurens county if the farmers could realize upon their natural resources. In speaking of his congressional duties he said that he was fostering a bill in an attempt to control cotton futures by requiring the grade of the staple and the fulfillment of the contract every time that a contract was taken upon the market.

S. L. Jeffords, forage crop specialist, also addressed the meeting and brought out the fact that lime was important in the growing of legumes. He also spoke upon the possibilities of lime as a foundation for the building up of better soil.

C. G. Cushman, extension dairyman, spoke upon a balanced ration, giving the facts that a man could lose by giving an animal too much feed and could lose by feeding an unbalanced ration. He also pointed out that lime being an important factor in nourishing the animal it should also be included in the feeds given the animal and cannot be unless there is plenty of lime in the soil.

COTTON PRODUCTION REDUCED BY RAINS

Damage by Precipitation Greater than That Caused by Boll Weevil.

Saluda, Oct. 9.—According to reports of B. B. Hare, agricultural statistician in South Carolina for the division of crop and live stock estimates, United States department of agriculture, the condition of cotton in the state on September 25 was 38 per cent. of normal, against 40 per cent. on August 25 and 60 per cent. on July 25. The condition on September 25 last year was 40 per cent, the ten year average on the corresponding date being 62 per cent. The indicated production is 620,000 bales, against 755,000 last year and 1,639,000 in 1920.

Speaking of the report, Mr. Hare says: "The condition figure of 38 per cent is probably the lowest of record and is due more to the excessive rains in June, July and early August than boll weevil infestation, although the weevil did considerable damage in many sections throughout the state."

Condition for the entire United States on September 25 was 50 per cent of normal, compared with 57 per cent on August 25 this year and 42.2 per cent on September 25, last year, the ten year average being 59.5 per cent. The present condition forecasts a production of 10,135,000 bales, the production last year being 7,953,641 bales; two years ago 13,439,603; three years ago 11,420,763 and four years ago 12,040,532 bales.

Condition in other states is as follows: Virginia 63 per cent, North Carolina 59 per cent, Georgia 37, Florida 55, Alabama 55, Mississippi 54, Louisiana 53, Texas 52, Arkansas 57, Tennessee 56, Missouri 70, Oklahoma 42, California 80, and Arizona 80.

The estimated yield for South Carolina is 620,000 bales.

Foot-Ball Thursday

The Laurens high school team will play the Gray Court-Owings high school on the local gridiron Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. According to dope given out from Laurens headquarters a good game is in prospect. The locals played their first game last Friday, going up against the strong Batesburg-Leesville aggregation and losing by a score of 2 to 0. The locals were outweighed, but gave a good account of themselves.

Mr. Sam Watts, of Columbia, spent the week-end with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McPhail.

REFeree's COURT RESUMES HEARING

Cotton Mill Deal Involves Large Sum.

An adjourned sitting of referee's court in the case of certain stockholders against the Watts cotton mills involving a suit for something like \$500,000, will be convened today by Judge Frank P. McGowan, referee. The first hearing of the suit was had June 28 and 29, when the hearing was adjourned until after Mr. McGowan could hold a session of court as special judge at York. Meantime he had to undergo hospital treatment and only recently has he been able to be at his office and about his work.

Mr. McGowan said Monday that the hearing would be resumed today and probably would be concluded within a day or two. He expects to render his decision in the case at the fall term of common pleas court next month.

Plaintiffs in this case allege that on April 7, 1909, an issue of preferred stock in the sum of \$200,000 was authorized and subsequently issued by the Watts Mills company. It is further alleged that it was provided that "all of the said preferred stock of this issue outstanding on April 21, 1921, shall on said date be redeemed and paid off by the corporation at par, plus accrued and unpaid dividends."

Notwithstanding this agreement, plaintiffs allege that no part of the principal and accrued dividends on the stock have been paid, although the date for such payments has passed. Judgment is sought by themselves and other stockholders in the amount of their stock, plus dividends and interest, amounting to approximately \$500,000.

In its reply so far submitted the defendant company says that after the stock of \$200,000 was issued it was necessary to make another issue amounting to \$750,000, which, according to a resolution of the stockholders, was made first preferred stock with no date of maturity. The company can not at this time retire both stock issues and the \$750,000 issue must be retired before the one now under litigation.

The plaintiffs are represented in the suit by Tillman, Mays & Featherstone of Greenwood and Blackwell & Sullivan, of Laurens. The Watts Mills company is represented by Haynesworth & Haynesworth and W. G. Sirrine of Greenville.

PAY ADVANCES

ON MUCH COTTON

Growers' Cooperative Association Receives Many Shipments of Staple.

The South Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative association paid advances Monday on 2,704 bales of cotton delivered to the association Saturday at its various receiving stations and warehouses over the state. This was the largest delivery made in a single day since the association began to function, although there has been a steady increase in the deliveries since the first day of the association's operations, according to officials of the organization.

The 2,704 bales on which the association paid the initial advance Monday do not represent the total delivery Saturday. Many of the members have not yet sent in their warehouse receipts and bills of lading. Officials of the organization expressed confidence last night that over 3,000 bales were delivered Saturday. This is believed to be the largest delivery to any association Saturday excepting possibly Oklahoma and Texas. The Oklahoma association had a delivery of 3,195 bales on Monday, October 2.

A telegram received by officials of the South Carolina association from C. L. Stealey, general manager of the Oklahoma association, said:

"What is believed to be the greatest volume of business ever done by a farmers' cooperative organization in a single day was handled by the Oklahoma Cotton Growers' association Monday when 3,195 bales of cotton were delivered by members. Advances to members Monday totaled \$181,456.97. The association is receiving more cotton every day than on the corresponding day last year." The Oklahoma association functioned last year.

Cotton Ginnings

Cotton ginnings in this county up to September 25 were 4,049 bales, according to figures given out by C. W. McCravy, crop statistician for the county. To last year at the same date 10,102 bales had been ginned, representing a little less than a third of the total crop.

CLARKE INDICTED BY GEORGIA JURY

Acting Head of Ku Klux Klan Faces Charge. Released on Bond.

Atlanta, Oct. 5.—E. V. Clark, imperial wizard pro tem of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, was indicted by the United States grand jury here today on charges of "using the mails to effect scheme to defraud." He was released on bond of \$500.

The charges against Mr. Clarke, who yesterday announced his resignation as pro tempore head of the Klan to take effect November 10, are based, according to the true bill rendered by the grand jury, on alleged use of the mails in collecting money from certain members, subordinate officers and employees of the Ku Klux Klan on the pretense that such moneys would be used to pay premiums to surety companies furnishing bonds for these klansmen.

The indictment alleged that the sums collected were in excess of the amount required to pay such premiums, and that this excess was converted to the personal use and benefit of Mr. Clarke. According to allegations in the memorandum accompanying the charges Mr. Clarke used the mails to collect money on the following plan: Grand Gobblins were required to be bonded in the amount of \$5,000; for which a fee of \$25 was required to pay premium to bonding company; king kiegles were required to furnish bonds of \$2,500, for which a fee of \$12.50 was required for premium and kiegles were required to furnish \$1,000 for which a fee of \$5 was required for premium.

It is charged that the National Surety company of New York was designated in the literature sent through the mails by Mr. Clarke as the bonding company and it is further alleged that the premium rates of this company for \$5,000 the amount of a grand goblin bond, was only \$9; and that the difference in this amount and the fee collected of the grand goblin was converted to the personal benefit of Mr. Clarke, and that proportionately smaller differences on the lower bonds were handled in a like manner.

Memoranda included in the indictment charges that Mr. Clarke mailed a letter on June 3, 1921, to George B. Kimbro, Jr., Houston, Texas, explaining terms of the bonding process giving fee rates, and setting forth rules of the Klan regarding bonds for employees. Another memorandum is alleged to be a copy of a letter which Mr. Clarke mailed to Kimbro on February 6, 1922, in which he acknowledged receipts of check for bond premiums of three kiegles.

In a statement tonight concerning the indictment Mr. Clarke termed it "another effort on the part of the enemies of the Klan to hurt the Klan by discrediting me."

"The ones who brought the charge before the grand jury are all discharged employees," he stated. "The indictment will not amount to anything, as it is predicated on false allegations. . . . The money charged in the indictment to have been received by me was all properly transmitted to the imperial palace, and is so on record at the palace. . . . The grand jury of course heard only one side of the case and if they had been in possession of the real facts no indictment would have been returned."

Epworth League at Gray Court

An Epworth League program was delightfully rendered by the young people of Bramlett at the Gray Court Methodist church on Sunday night, October 8th. They gave a pageant showing the methods the missionaries use in teaching the Africans. About eight young people played the role of Africans and four missionaries/taught them about Jesus just as they do in the missionary stations in Africa.

Mr. Willard Wilkie made a very fine talk on the Christian work of the young people of today.

Several quartets were rendered. The Gray Court leaguers hope these fine young people will come again.

Gasoline Money Received

County Treasurer yesterday received a check for \$2,572.28 from the state treasurer, this being Laurens county's share of the gasoline tax collected during June, July and August. The total amount mailed out to all the counties was \$109,837.54. Of the counties in the state, Charleston lead with \$9,426.18 and Spartanburg came second with \$8,008.58. The state received the same amount as the total apportioned to all the counties.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT BEGINS MONDAY

Wielders of Rackets to Contest for Silver Cup at Bois Terre Club.

Wielders of the tennis rackets will occupy the center of the stage at the Bois Terre country club for the major part of next week and the following week when the first annual tennis tournament will be held. Plans for the tournament were finally laid at a meeting of tennis players at the club house Monday evening. Dr. C. E. Spencer of Clinton, will have general supervision of the matches.

At the meeting Monday night it was decided to secure a silver trophy cup to remain in the club house on which the names of successful contestants will be engraved each year.

Under the program of play as outlined at the meeting, all single matches will be played next week, beginning Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Doubles will be played the following week, beginning Tuesday, October 24, at 2 o'clock.

The following names have been entered for the tournament in both singles and doubles: J. W. Todd, Jr., R. R. Nickels, Thos. Rideout, C. S. Link, Allie Lee, Geo. M. Wright, J. F. Blackmon, all of Laurens; Dr. Whitten, W. P. J. F. Jr., and T. D. Jacobs, John Spratt, R. E. Ferguson and Geo. Cornelson, of Clinton.

In the elimination contests, beginning Tuesday, Todd will play Whitten, Nickels will play Jacobs, W. J. Rideout will play Link, Jacobs, T. D. will play Spratt. Wednesday afternoon Ferguson will play Lee, Cornelson will play Wright, and Jacobs, J. F. will play Blackmon. Successful contestants will compete Thursday afternoon for place in the semi-finals which will be played Friday afternoon. Finals will be played off Saturday afternoon, when the fastest playing of the week is expected.

The contests in doubles will start off the following Tuesday afternoon with Blackmon and Spratt playing Ferguson and Cornelson; and Wright and Link playing Whitten and Jacobs, T. D.; Nickels and Todd playing Lee and Rideout; Jacobs, J. F. and W. J. drew a bye and were automatically thrown into the semi-finals. Semi-finals will be played Wednesday and finals Thursday.

The tournament is expected to attract a great deal of interest among the club members. As one of its prime objects is to promote interest in this branch of athletics, it is hoped that a large number will be present to witness the contest.

ARTISTIC ORGAN RECITAL

Prof. O. M. Tully, Assisted by Local Singers, Gave Recital Friday Evening.

Music lovers of Laurens were given a treat at the organ recital last Friday night under the auspices of the Epworth League by Professor Owen Tully, of Greenwood, at the First Methodist church. He was assisted by Miss Jennie Shealy, Mrs. J. F. Blackmon, Mrs. T. L. Marchant and Mrs. C. T. Latimer, who sang several charming selections.

In spite of the inclemency of the weather, a large crowd was gathered, the church being more than half filled. Professor Tully, by request, chose mostly old favorites for his selections, well known classical pieces, negro melodies and old songs. He was able to bring out the tone of the fine pipe organ of the Methodist church to perfection. He also accompanied the songs of the ladies, whose selections met with the highest approval of the audience.

A silver collection was taken up during the concert to pay the expenses of the recital.

Revival at Holmes Street Church

Rev. Sam T. Creech, superintendent of the Southern Industrial Home, Spartanburg, will conduct a revival for the Holmes Street Methodist church, of Laurens, beginning Thursday night, October 12th. All services will be held in the auditorium of the mill school building, and will begin promptly at 7:30 P. M. Mr. Creech is a well known minister of rare pulpit ability who has had many years successful experience in revival work. Miss Virginia Shealy will act as organist during the ten days of the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Dial Gray and Mrs. Edna Gray spent Sunday in Williamston with Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Gray.

PEACE OR WAR RESTS WITH TURKS

ALLIES, AGAIN IN UNISON, LAY TERMS BEFORE TURKS WHICH MUST BE ACCEPTED OR HOSTILITIES WILL FOLLOW. LAST WORD GIVEN.

London, Oct. 10.—The question of peace in the Near East now rests with the Turkish nationalist assembly at Angora, which has before it the armistice conditions laid down by the Allied powers.

Meanwhile, the Mudania conference has been adjourned and the Allied generals have returned to their headquarters in Constantinople to await the Turkish decision.

The Allied terms include withdrawal of the Turkish troops from the neutral zones of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus, limitation of the number of Turkish gendarmes to be allowed in Eastern Thrace, and non-occupation of that province by the Turkish army until after a peace treaty is signed.

Confronted by the new program and assured of the Allies' re-establishment of unanimity, the Turkish representative at Mudania, Ismet Pasha, yesterday let it be known that his powers were limited, although he was in constant telephonic communication with Mustapha Kemal Pasha and that the final word must come from the national assembly.

Constantinople advices report the arrival of additional Turkish forces in the neutral zone of the Ismid peninsula, on the Asiatic shore of the Bosphorus opposite Constantinople. The British are landing reinforcements to protect their railway communications.

Last Word Says Harington

Murania, Oct. 10.—The Allied generals drew up their final armistice convention here late last evening and submitted it to Ismet Pasha the Turkish nationalist representative. The Angora government was given until five p. m. to accept or reject it.

Met at the pier on his arrival by the correspondent, General Harington said:

"The convention we submitted to the nationalists last evening is Great Britain's last word. It now rests with Angora whether the world shall have peace or war.

"We have gone to the extremity of concessions, declared General Harington.

"The revised armistice convention is a gratifying manifestation of Allied solidarity in war or peace. It is my earnest hope that the Turks will appreciate the liberality of our terms. If they reject them we are prepared for all eventualities."

May Sign at 5 O'Clock

Constantinople, Oct. 10.—The signing of the protocol armistice at Mudania is expected to take place at 5 o'clock this afternoon, according to an announcement by the Havas Agency, the semi-official French news organization. Lieutenant General Harington and his staff, who arrived here on the Iron Duke at 1:45 this morning expects to return to Mudania at 3 p. m.

S. H. FLEMING DEAD

Valued Citizen of Ora Passed Away Sunday, October 1st.

Samuel H. Fleming, well known and highly respected citizen of Ora, passed away at his home in that community Sunday morning, October 1st, after having been in feeble health for several years. The funeral was held at the Ora A. R. P. church Monday afternoon, the service being conducted by his pastor, Rev. I. N. Kennedy. A large number of sorrowing friends and relatives from all over the county was present to pay a last tribute.

Mr. Fleming was about 65 years of age and was twice married. His first marriage was to a Miss Thompson, of the county, and of this union one son, Mr. Hall Fleming, survives. His second marriage was to Miss Isabella Fleming. Besides the widow, two children of this union survive, Miss Rosa Bell and Samuel Fleming. Three sisters also survive, Mrs. J. L. Nabers, of this city, Mrs. Conway Martin and Miss Lula Fleming, of Ora.

The deceased was a consistent member of the A. R. P. church at Ora, a public spirited citizen highly regarded by all those who knew him. His death removed a valuable man from the community.